accent on avila COLLEGE

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Avila's New President Takes The Helm

"I'm very excited about it and quite honored to be selected to serve as president of one of the best colleges in the Midwest," said Dr. Larry Kramer, who is to become president of Avila College on November 1.

Dr. Kramer will be the first lay president since Avila College was founded in 1916. He is also the first man to hold that position in the history of the college.

Formerly Executive Vice President of St. Mary of the Plains College, Dodge City, Kansas, a Catholic coeducational center, Dr. Kramer held positions of Fiscal Manager, Personnel Director for the Faculty, and Director of Development.

Previously, Dr. Kramer was Assistant Principal at Bishop Carrol High School, Wichita, Kansas (1962-1973) and Principal of St. Joseph High School (now Aquinas High School) in Shawnee, Kansas (1973-1976). He earned his doctorate in College and University Administration from the University of Kansas in 1976.

Welcome to Avila College, Dr. Kramer.

A native of Garden Plains, Kansas, Dr. Kramer and his wife, Jan, have four children.

Dr. Kramer comes to Avila College with strong administrative abilities and academic achievements. He has established himself as an effective leader in higher education and civic affairs.

Avila Student Does Kinetic Research

An Avila College senior was one of a handful of students selected to carry out research in an annual summer program at the University of Kansas.

Donna Malone, a pre-med, biology and chemistry major, worked alongside Dr. John Stobaugh on a pilot project officially called "Kinetic Studies on the addition of Nitrogen Nucleophiles to Quinone Systems."

"I made a product that has never been made before," Ms. Malone said. "I had to characterize it to make sure it was really different. It was, but it was of no use. It was a good learning experience."

Ms. Malone was one of only seven students accepted for the ten-week program. In all, over 50 students had applied.

"Avila College helps prepare its students for research in academic and industrial settings," said Dr. Larry Sullivan, Chairman of the Department of Natural and Applied Health Sciences. "Avila's up-to-date instrumentation gave Donna a stronger background than most other students with whom she worked at the University of Kansas," he said.

Chaplain Brings 'Can-Do' Spirit To Avila Campus

He is called "Father Mike," but the title doesn't come close to reflecting his academic background and ministerial experience. A veteran of 24 years of teaching experience and parish work, Father Michael Zahorchak is Avila College's new full-time chaplain.

In addition to performing his priestly duties (the saying of Mass and the administering of confession and communion), Father Mike said that he intends to be available to the students at any time that they need him.

The new chaplain said he is already encouraged by the people around him. "Everyone is aware of a spiritual dimension in their lives and, hopefully, I'm fulfilling that need somewhat," he said.

Father Mike said that one way of teaching religion is to become involved in the community, which he plans to do. He also welcomes college alumni to visit him for counseling or for any other need for which he can be of assistance.

"I'm just getting my feet wet," he said. "I'm willing to offer any service."

Formerly a campus minister at Marietta College in Marietta, Ohio, at Ohio University at Athens, Ohio, and at Calumet College in Whiting, Indiana, Father Mike said he has loved every minute of being at Avila and in Kansas City.

"Everything about Avila is highly professional. Nothing is slipshod. Avila does everything with a flair. I'm also impressed with Kansas City. It's one of the best kept secrets west of St. Louis."

In addition to his other duties, Father Mike will write a column every other week ("Chaplain's Corner") for the Avila Examiner, the student newspaper.

Those who wish to visit with him need only drop by the campus, call the Campus Ministry (942-8400, ext. 264) or call his residence at the Coronation Parish in Grandview (761-8811).

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Retiring President Begins New Role

Sister Olive Louise, who retires from the Avila presidency at the end of October, answers some of the questions she has been asked recently:

What will you do after October 31?

I will begin making decisions in the new work to which I'm assigned. I'm as good a follower as I am a leader, and I will give my wholehearted attention to the business at hand.

What will your title be after you retire from the presidency?

I can't answer that at this time. There has never been a retiring president at Avila. Any new title must be approved by the Board of Trustees.

Will you continue to teach?

Yes. I love to teach. I'll be joining the ranks of Avila's quality professors.

How do you think Avila's students see you?

I would like the students to see me as a nice person for them to know — a friend. I'm interested in their learning. I want them to experience the **joy** of learning.

What has been the source of your support?

My support has been the strength of a few basic concepts: God is where there is peace and joy; do the best with what you have, **now**.

Business Chairman is Newest Asset

Dr. Irvin Summers, the new Chairman of the Department of Business, brings a combination of corporate management and academic excellence to Avila College. Dr. Summers has spent ten years in corporate management positions and three years in academic administration and teaching. He received his M.B.A. at Michigan State University and Ph.D. at Wayne State University.

"For me, it is a real pleasure to be at Avila because of the emphasis on service to our students and quality teaching," Dr. Summers said. "The excellent business environment in the Kansas City area provides us an opportunity to increase our service to the business community." Dr. Summers believes programs of business study need to remain alert to changes in the business environment. He said Avila should be flexible regarding the needs of the students and the organizations in which they will find employment.

"My personal belief is that the preparation the undergraduate student receives should be broadly based. I think it is fortunate that the business program accrediting body has set a standard that also emphasizes the students' work in other than business courses. Avila's course offerings in the arts, social studies, science, and communication skills are excellent for our students whether their major area of study is in business or elsewhere in the college," stated Dr. Summers.

Dr. Irvin Summers

His warmth and concern for students and his enthusiasm for all types of activities make Dr. Summers a welcome addition to Avila College. His goal is to continue the development of excellent programs for business students.

Avila Alumni Events

November 2
Memorial Mass for Deceased Alumni
Foyle Hall Chapel, 4:00 p.m.
November 20
Alumni Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
November
Thanksgiving Mass for Avila Volunteers
December 8
Christmas Concert, 4:00 p.m.
Goppert Theatre
October 3-5
AVILA HOMECOMING 1986